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A SET OF PDP-12 PROGRAMS FOR COMPUTING SPECTRA OF POWER, COHERE--ETC(U)

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A SET OF PDP-12 PROGRAMS FOR COMPUTING  
SPECTRA OF POWER, COHERENCE, AND PHASE

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ABSTRACT

A time-varying function may be analyzed for its frequency content by means of either the simple Fourier transformation or the smoothed power density spectrum. Two or more functions may be related through coherence and phase spectra. Working from either analog voltages or previously prepared digital tapes, a set of programs is available for making these computations. Runs have been made with artificially generated pseudo-random numbers, and the results are presented to indicate the sampling variability to be expected under certain conditions.



INTRODUCTION

Deterministic Functions

Two types of frequency analysis may be used with a sequence of digital measurements from a time-varying function. The first is classical Fourier analysis. For example, assume an epoch length of 16 seconds with a sampling rate of 128 Hz. This provides a set of 2048 raw input data points, from which a Fourier transformation will obtain 1024 sine coefficients and 1024 cosine coefficients. These may be converted to the amplitudes and phases of a set of pure sinusoids ranging from zero to 64 Hz by increments of .0625, (1/16) Hz. The basic formula states that the minimum frequency and the sharpest frequency resolution that are available are equal to the reciprocal of the epoch length. The maximum frequency that can be studied is half the sampling frequency, known as the Nyquist or folding frequency. For a deterministic waveform, like the AC voltage on a domestic power line, such an analysis might be useful for measuring the line frequency, since any other sample is likely to give results that are virtually identical. For discriminations finer than .0625 Hz, there is no alternative but to take longer samples. With a fixed computer buffer size, a trade-off must be made between the range of frequencies to be studied and the maximum frequency resolution.

Random Functions

An entirely different class of functions consists of stationary random, or stochastic processes. By definition, these do not include any pure sinusoids but may include energy that tends to lie within certain limited frequency intervals. For example, a human being with a high alpha wave will have a number of strong Fourier components in the neighborhood of 10 Hz, but no two runs will ever yield an identical set of amplitudes. To obtain meaningful (i.e. consistent and unbiased) results, one must resort to some form of statistical averaging. The squared amplitudes, proportional to either numerical variance or electrical power, of all of the frequencies within successive frequency ranges are lumped together to give relatively gross estimates of the magnitudes and locations of the dominant components. The

frequencies originally obtained by simple Fourier transformation have been called the "elementary," or "line" frequencies, due to the appearance of the discrete plots of their squared amplitudes. If a number,  $K$ , of these values are added together, the sum has a chi-squared distribution with  $2K$  degrees of freedom.<sup>1</sup> This function is the third trade-off to be considered in setting up a spectral analysis. If  $T$  is the epoch length in seconds, and  $S$  the digitizing rate in Hz, the following relations hold:

- (1) Elementary frequency =  $\frac{1}{T}$
- (2) Maximum frequency =  $\frac{S}{2}$
- (3) No. of measurements =  $ST$
- (4) Spectral resolution =  $\frac{K}{T}$
- (5) Degrees of freedom =  $2K$

In brief, the analysis may be designed to maximize the confidence associated with either the height or the position of a power peak along the frequency axis, but both goals cannot be achieved simultaneously. This basic uncertainty has been shown to be mathematically equivalent to the Heisenberg principle in atomic physics.<sup>2</sup> Similar uncertainties apply to estimates of coherence and phase. These are derived from the complex Wishart distribution, which is an extension of the chi-squared.<sup>3,4</sup>

PROGRAM OPERATION

The routines described here, which have also been submitted to DECUS, are built around the Fast Fourier Transform for Real Variables, written by James Rothman and distributed under the DECUS number 8-143. Originally written for a PDP-8 without Extended Arithmetic Element, it was titled FFT-R. The version now used is FFT-E, still entirely in P-mode, but using the additional hardware and with a minor round-off error corrected in the multiplication subroutine. The coding added by the present author has been arranged to avoid the need for any changes to the Rothman package as distributed.

Two versions have been written to accept either analog voltages via the A/D converter, or digital





measurements via LINCtape. Because of the needs of our laboratory, the tape input version is the one that has been more fully tested and submitted to DECUS. The internal parameters are set up for 16 seconds of data, sampled at 128 Hz, and requiring an output frequency resolution of .5 Hz. However, these are easily converted, and the results of doing so in one instance are described below. In any case, 2048 points from one channel are stored in the upper 4K of core, while the FFT routine operates on an equal number of points from the other channel in lower core. The routine overlays the input data with its computed Fourier coefficients.

After one channel has been analyzed, the contents of the two buffers are interchanged, and the second channel is analyzed. From the two sets of Fourier coefficients, the two auto-power spectra and the real and imaginary parts of the cross-power spectrum are computed and stored in double precision integer form on an intermediate-output LINCtape (Figure 1). All of these computations take about 20-25 seconds. In the analog version, intended for on-line operation, the KW12 clock is running with an interrupt routine that digitizes the voltage inputs. While a 30-second batch of data is being analyzed, a succeeding epoch is being collected and temporarily stored on LINCtape on Unit 0. As soon as the intermediate results have been written out on Unit 1, the temporary file on Unit 0 is unloaded and the cycle restarted. The process is entirely automatic, with successive groups of one, two, or three blocks written on Unit 1 with each iteration, depending on the parameters inserted to the program.

The DIAL program that does this work is filed under the name XS for the tape input version or XSPECTRM for the analog version. After a set of runs has been completed, a FOCAL-12 program, \$XS,\* is called in and executed for each epoch to be analyzed. Because of storage limitations on an 8K machine, overlays have to be used, with programs \$XS and \$TYPEXS automatically overlaying each other. They produce a final typed listing of frequency, two auto-power spectra, and coherence and phase.

\*FOCAL-12 programs are distinguished by the initial \$ in their names.

## SAMPLE VARIABILITY

Unfortunately, spectrum analysis is not a simple tool that can be used without a good understanding of the underlying statistical principles. Although the theoretical distributions of computed sample values have been worked out on the basis of certain convenient mathematical assumptions,<sup>1,3</sup> one cannot be quite certain of their applicability to real problems. Besides, since coherence and phase are jointly distributed according to rules that are considerably less familiar to most users than the chi-squared distribution, special care must be exercised in their use. Some simulations have been made with Gaussian pseudo-random number sequences input as data in order to determine the sampling distributions of the computed parameters.

Figure 2 shows the program output when there is zero correlation between the two input channels. With an epoch length of 16 seconds and an output frequency resolution of .5 Hz, each of the estimated power densities, coherences, and phases has 16 degrees of freedom. Because of some shortcuts taken in setting up these runs, the total variances printed at the top of the sheet are not in the same units as the power densities given below. However, instead of being uniformly distributed, as expected, they are seen to range all the way from approximately 200 units all the way to approximately 1200 units. The coherences, which would all be zero if they were consistent and unbiased estimators of squared correlation as a function of frequency, are seen to go as high as 0.183. Now if the same data are run with a broader frequency resolution that has 64 degrees of freedom (see Figure 3), the random distribution of estimators covers a much more narrow range. The power densities vary by no more than a factor of two, and the maximum reported coherence is five times less than in the previous run.

Two more runs were made under similar conditions, except that the simulated input data sequences had a known squared cross-correlation of 0.50 (Figures 4 and 5). The distribution of the estimated power densities is about the same as before, as one might expect, but the computed coherences are much higher. In Figure 2, with only 16 degrees of freedom, the

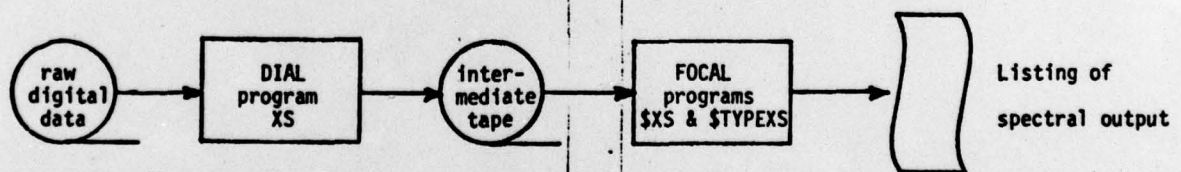


Figure 1: Steps in spectral and cross-spectral analysis

minimum coherence is less than the reported maximum where there was no correlation between the channels. It appears that with no more than 16 degrees of freedom, one cannot with complete certainty distinguish populations with zero coherence from ones with 0.50 coherence. However, there is still information to be gained from such a computer run, because in the 0.50 case, most of the computed coherences are well above the one reported in the zero case. With 64 degrees of freedom, of course, the distinction between the two populations is immediate and obvious.

#### CONCLUSION

A set of programs for doing spectral and cross-spectral analyses has been submitted to DECUS. They are designed for input from LINCtape and assume a sampling rate of 128 Hz over a period of 16 seconds, with an output frequency resolution of 0.50 Hz. However, other versions exist for analog input in real time with different frequency and epoch parameters. The author will be glad to advise in adapting the submitted programs to the needs of a particular user. These programs were run with simulated data and have shown that with 16 degrees of freedom, one can distinguish fairly reliably between populations whose true coherence is zero and those with a true coherence of 0.50. With 64 degrees, the distinction is much more certain, and even finer resolutions are possible.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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EPOCH		7		1		1		VARIANCE = 34111		VARIANCE = 33920	
FIRST LEAD: MEAN ==		1		1		1		1		1	
SECOND LEAD: MEAN ==		1		1		1		1		1	
FREQ.	FIRST POWER	SECOND POWER	COH.	PHASE							
2.00	2041.45	2163.11	0.022	-54							
4.00	2303.85	2292.29	0.040	148							
6.00	1916.49	2017.43	0.010	66							
8.00	2726.52	2089.80	0.001	79							
10.00	2313.58	2413.81	0.014	143							
12.00	2380.84	2109.88	0.001	149							
14.00	2639.56	1796.87	0.002	-4							
16.00	1864.52	2759.61	0.008	164							
18.00	1708.18	2449.20	0.031	135							
20.00	2795.04	1792.06	0.017	-175							
22.00	2476.02	2017.27	0.010	-138							
24.00	2099.20	2569.24	0.006	146							
26.00	2423.75	1682.21	0.003	-119							
28.00	2521.34	2102.43	0.005	-17							
30.00	2589.83	2055.56	0.005	-147							
32.00	1463.30	2660.84	0.012	80							
34.00	1804.63	2598.29	0.017	-103							
36.00	2589.68	2194.78	0.001	107							
38.00	2040.46	2008.53	0.001	83							
40.00	2394.23	1718.26	0.004	-114							
42.00	2274.26	2395.39	0.009	85							
44.00	2197.92	1584.73	0.011	-94							
46.00	2668.94	1426.92	0.000	160							
48.00	2018.21	2604.25	0.027	-129							
50.00	1894.93	2641.03	0.008	174							
52.00	2441.25	2182.88	0.020	117							
54.00	2016.55	2451.03	0.002	-124							
56.00	2273.08	2291.12	0.008	84							
58.00	2051.65	2345.89	0.004	-50							
60.00	2310.01	2271.75	0.012	-16							
62.00	2423.76	1907.99	0.009	-13							



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